

# **EPA Superfund Explanation of Significant Differences:**

**ALADDIN PLATING  
EPA ID: PAD075993378  
OU 01  
SCOTT TOWNSHIP, PA  
05/07/1990**

## EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES

### ALADDIN PLATING SUPERFUND SITE

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Site Name: Aladdin Plating Superfund Site  
("the Site")  
Site Location: South Abington and Scott Townships,  
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania  
Lead Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency, Region III ("EPA" or "the Agency")  
Support Agency: PA Department of Environmental Resources  
("PA DER")

#### Statement of Purpose

A Record of Decision ("ROD") for the Aladdin Plating Superfund Site was signed on September 27, 1988. This Explanation of Significant Differences ("ESD") is issued in accordance with Section 117(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, and is now a part of the Administrative Record for the Site. This decision document presents a significant change to the remedy selected in the ROD for the Site. The change to the remedy resulted from the discovery of additional areas of soil contamination adjacent to the Aladdin Plating Superfund Site.

#### II SUMMARY OF THE SITE HISTORY, SITE CONDITIONS, AND SELECTED REMEDY

The Aladdin Plating facility is currently not in operation. From 1947 to 1982, the Site was operated as an electroplating plant, using nickel, copper, chromium, sulfuric acid, chromic acid and cyanide, resulting in extensive soil contamination. The primary contaminants of concern are chromium, lead and cyanide in on-site soils. The contaminants are "hazardous substances" as defined in Section 101(14) of CERCLA.

On September 27, 1988, EPA signed a ROD for Operable Unit 1, to address the endangerment to human health, welfare, and the environment which may be presented by direct contact with contaminated surface soils and sediments and potential future contamination of ground water.

A complete description of the selected remedy as well as EPA's rationale for the decision is presented in the Site ROD (attached hereto as Exhibit 1).

The major components of the selected remedy are:

Excavation and off-site treatment, via  
stabilization, of approximately 12,000 cubic

yards of contaminated soil.

Disposal of the treated soils in an appropriate off-site landfill.

Replacement of the excavated soil with clean fill.

### III. DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES

Significant differences between the remedy presented in the ROD and the remedy that will be implemented are listed below:

- o The scope of the remedial project will increase to cover a volume of 22,000 cubic yards from the original 12,000 cubic yards.
- o The project completion date will be extended approximately three months to September 1990.
- o The project cost will increase from \$9.2 million to \$20.5 million.

Sampling conducted in 1989 detected chromium contamination in an additional three acres (approximately 10,000 cubic yards) of soil on private property contiguous to the western corner of the Site. This additional contamination, if left unremediated, would pose the same threat to public health, welfare or the environment as the contamination originally proposed to be remediated in the ROD. The remedy selected for the additional contaminated area is identical to that selected in the ROD, which remedy is currently being implemented. Only the scope, implementation schedule and cost of the remedy are modified by this ESD.

### IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The remedy proposed in this ESD was presented to the public in a meeting held at the Justus Fire Hall, Justus, PA on January 11, 1990. Those attending expressed overwhelming support for the remedy proposed by this ESD, namely, that the additional 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil be included in the ongoing remedial project.

This ESD and the information upon which it is based have been included in the Administrative Record file for this Site. The Administrative Record also includes the ROD and all documents that formed the basis for EPA's selection of the cleanup remedy. The Administrative Record is available for public review at the locations listed below:

U.S. EPA, Region III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Scott Township Civic Center  
R.D. 1, Route 247  
Olyphant, PA 18447

South Abington Township Building  
104 Shady Lane Road  
Chinchilla, PA 18410

Questions or comments on EPA's action and requests to review the Administrative Record should be directed to:

Patrick McManus  
Remedial Project Manager  
Mail Code (3HW22)  
U.S. EPA, Region III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(215) 597-3923

V. SUPPORT AGENCY REVIEW

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania concurs with the course of action proposed in this ESD.

VI. AFFIRMATION OF STATUTORY DETERMINATION

Considering the new information that has been developed and the changes that have been made to the selected remedy, the EPA and PADER believe that the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment, complies with Federal and State requirements that are applicable or relevant and appropriate to this remedial action, and is cost-effective. In addition, the revised remedy utilizes permanent technologies to the maximum extent practicable for this Site.

5/7/90

Date

Edwin B. Erickson

Edwin B. Erickson  
Regional Administrator



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES  
Post Office Box 2063  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

May 15, 1990

Bureau of Waste Management

717-783-7816

Mr. Walter Graham, Chief  
Eastern Pennsylvania Remedial Section  
US EPA, Region III  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

RE: Letter of Concurrence

Aladdin Plating Site - South Abington & Scott Twps.,  
Lackawanna County, Explanation of Significant Difference

*Walt*  
Dear Mr. Graham:

This is in reply to your letter of April 23, 1990  
concerning the Aladdin Plating Superfund Site.

The Department has reviewed the draft document associated  
with the above referenced Superfund Site entitled, "Explanation of  
Significant Difference (ESD)".

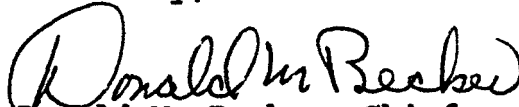
The Department concurs with the EPA's proposed significant  
change as follows:

- The scope of the remedial project will increase to cover a  
volume of 22,000 cubic yards from the original 12,000 cubic  
yards.
- The project completion date will be extended approximately  
three months to September, 1990.
- The project cost will increase from \$9.2 million to \$20.5  
million.

The existing State Superfund Contract (SSC) signed on  
March 7, 1989 for \$9.2 million will have to be amended to reflect the  
increased cost to \$20.5 million as the result of the increased volume  
of soils to be excavated, treated and disposed in an off-site  
landfill.

Thank you for the opportunity to concur with this EPA Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD). If you have any questions regarding this matter do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Donald M. Becker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "D" at the beginning.

**Donald M. Becker, Chief  
Federal Funded Site Section  
Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program**